IDW
ISSUE 2
$3.99
the MAZE AGENCY
MISS DEATH
2006
ARIEL PADILLA '06
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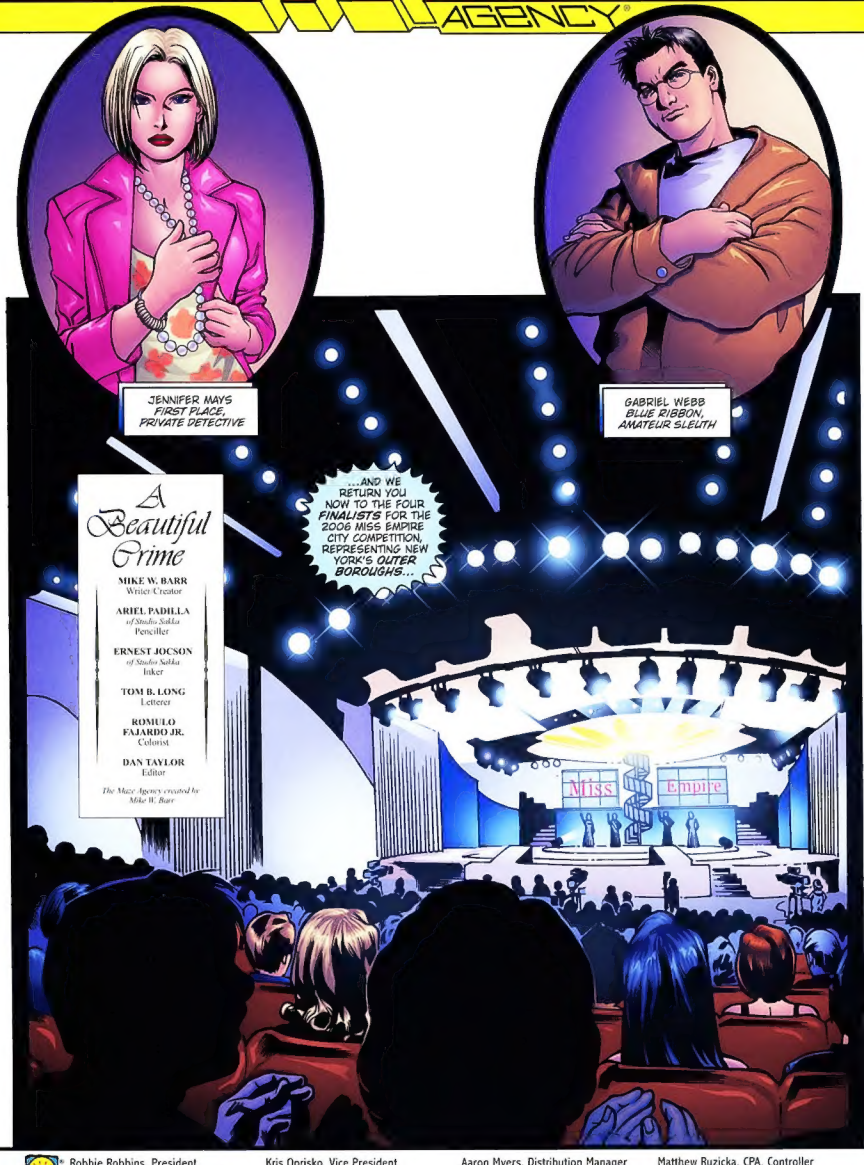

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THE MAZE AGENCY #2. December 2005. FIRST PRINTING. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 4411 Morena Blvd., Suite 106, San Diego, CA 92117.

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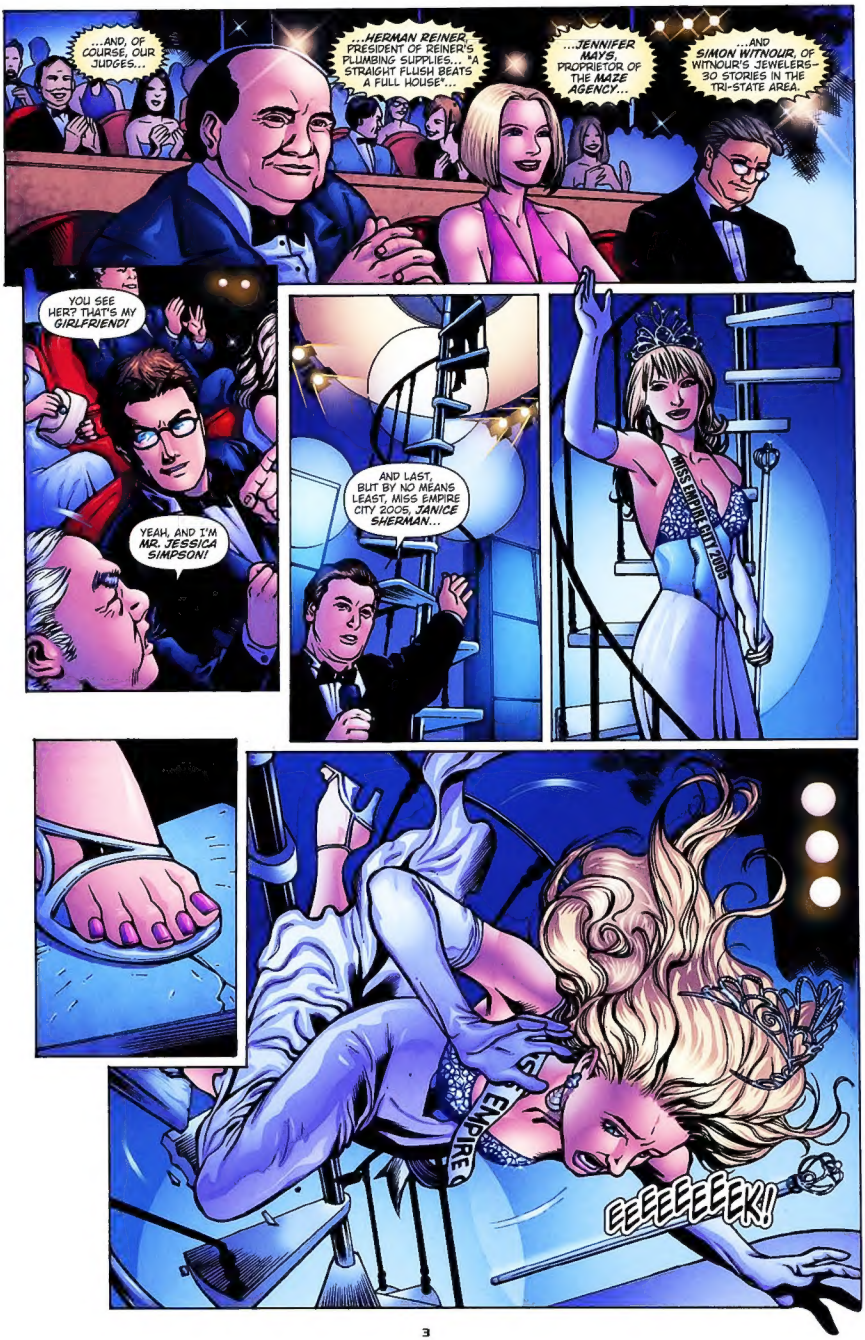
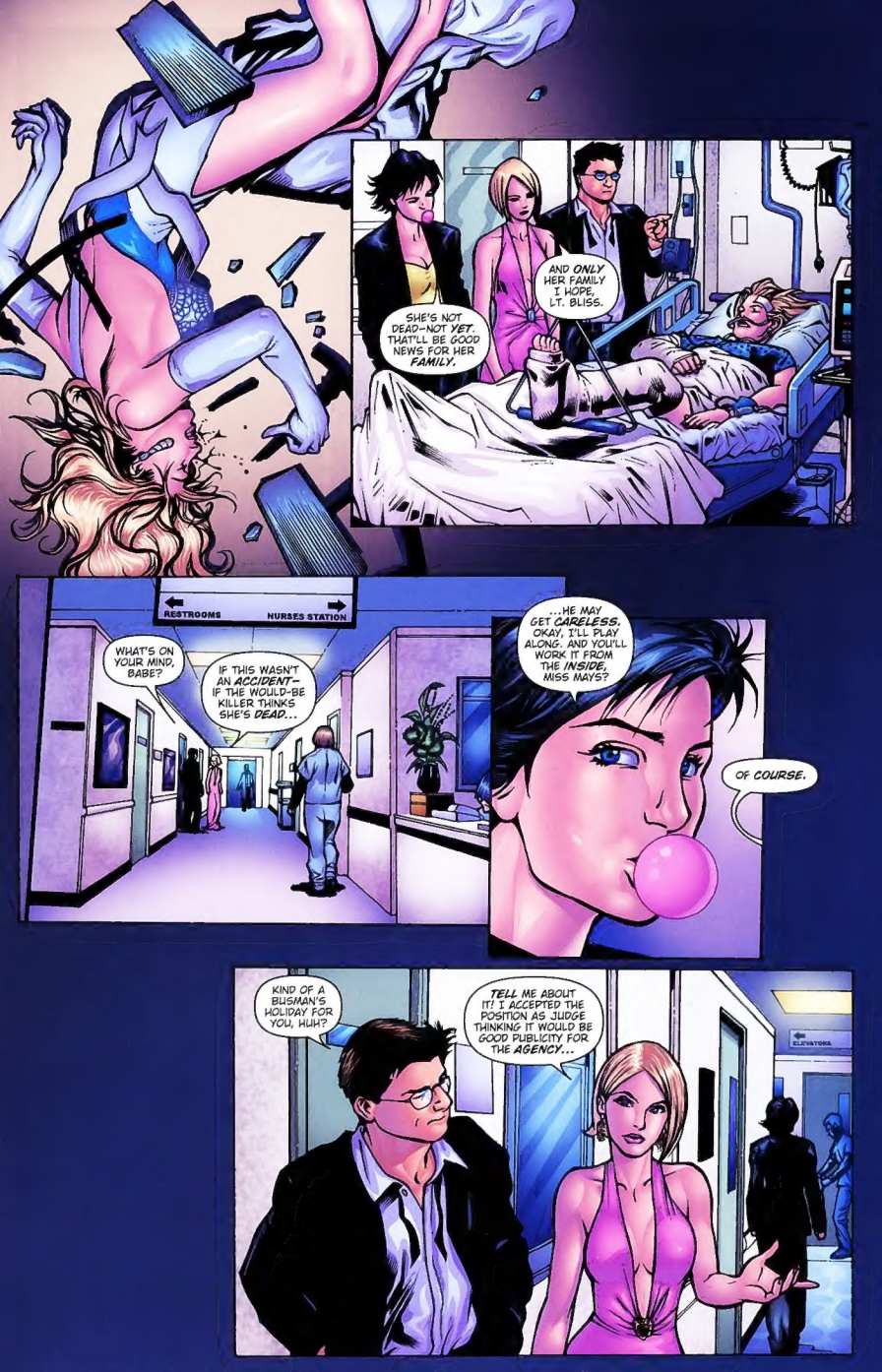
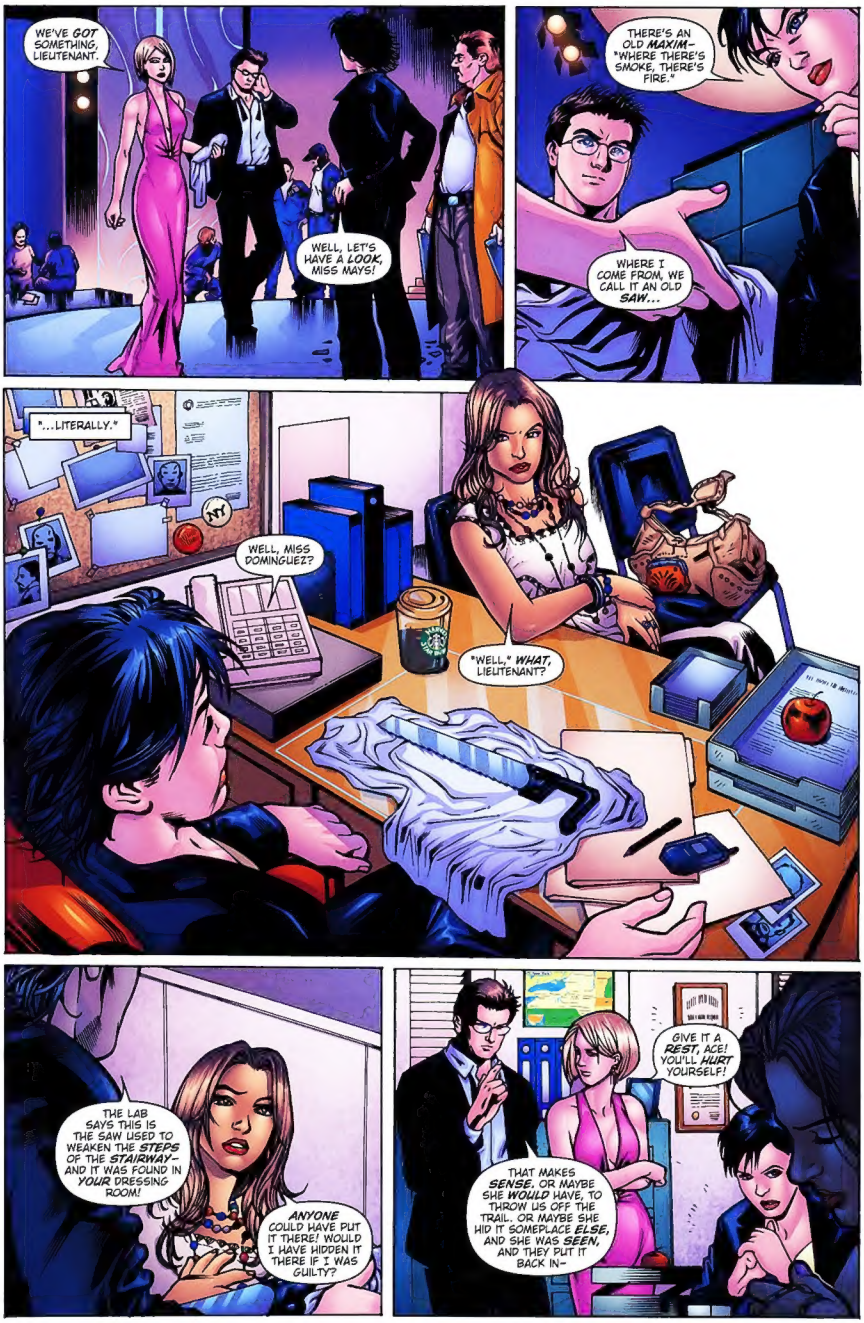
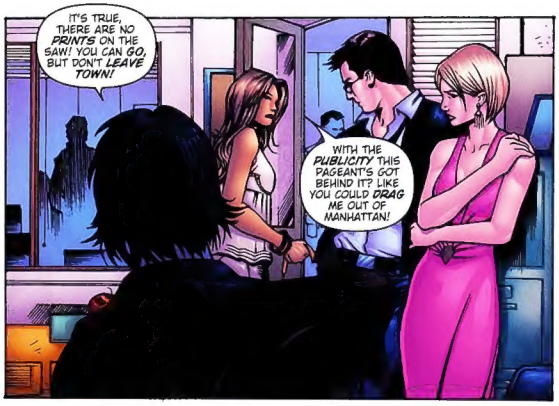
...AND YOUR HOST, STAR OF TV'S "PROXMIRE," JAMES...ER...
WHERE IS HE? MARCIA, WHERE'S FRIEDLANDER?
THERE HE IS, STAGE LEFT!
...JAMES FRIEDLANDER!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
THANK YOU, FOLKS! LET'S TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT OUR FOUR LOVELY FINALISTS, ONE OF WHO WILL WIN THE SCHOLARSHIP, THE MODELING CONTRACT AND $10,000 IN CASH...
...KIMBERLY SANDERS, FROM STATEN ISLAND...
...DANIELLE DOMINGUEZ, FROM QUEENS...
...WIK YAMASHIRO, FROM THE BRONX...
...AND PARI RAMANSHOOR, FROM BROOKLYN.
KIM
DANIELLE
WIK
PARI


...AND, OF COURSE, OUR JUDGES...
...HERMAN REINER, PRESIDENT OF REINER'S PLUMBING SUPPLIES... "A STRAIGHT FLUSH BEATS A FULL HOUSE"...
...JENNIFER MAYS, PROPRIETOR OF THE MAZE AGENCY...
...AND SIMON WITNOUR, OF WITNOUR'S JEWELERS– 30 STORIES IN THE TRI-STATE AREA.
YOU SEE HER? THAT'S MY GIRLFRIEND!
YEAH, AND I'M MR. JESSICA SIMPSON!
AND LAST, BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST, MISS EMPIRE CITY 2005, JANICE SHERMAN...
MISS EMPIRE CITY 2005
EMPIRE
EEEEEEEEEK!


SHE'S NOT DEAD--NOT YET. THAT'LL BE GOOD NEWS FOR HER FAMILY.
AND ONLY HER FAMILY I HOPE, LT. BLISS.
RESTROOMS
NURSES STATION
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, BABE?
IF THIS WASN'T AN ACCIDENT-- IF THE WOULD-BE KILLER THINKS SHE'S DEAD...
...HE MAY GET CARELESS. OKAY, I'LL PLAY ALONG. AND YOU'LL WORK IT FROM THE INSIDE, MISS MAYS?
OF COURSE.
KIND OF A BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY FOR YOU, HUH?
TELL ME ABOUT IT! I ACCEPTED THE POSITION AS JUDGE THINKING IT WOULD BE GOOD PUBLICITY FOR THE AGENCY...
ELEVATORS

MEDICAL CENTER
...BUT NOW I HAVE TO SOLVE THIS THING, OR I'LL LOOK LIKE A FOOL.
WE HAVE TO SOLVE "THIS THING," JEN. WE'RE A TEAM, REMEMBER?
THANKS FOR REMINDING ME...
LIEUTENANT, LOOK AT THIS!
GIVE ME GOOD NEWS, SERGEANT!
NY CSI
IT'S KINDA GOOD! THAT FIRST STEP MISS 2005 TOOK ON THAT STAIRCASE OFF THE CATWALK WAS A DOOZY--IT WAS NEARLY SAWN IN HALF! THE WEIGHT OF A CAT WOULDA BROKEN IT!
AND ANYONE IN THE CREW COULD HAVE DONE IT--NOT TO MENTION THE LILY-WHITE HANDS OF THE CONTESTANTS THEMSELVES! GET PHOTOS AND CLEAN IT UP, SIMONS!
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE GOT A GRUDGE AGAINST THE GIRLS, LOOT.
DON'T KNOW IF IT'S HATRED OR ENVY, SIMONS. MAYBE A LITTLE OF BOTH. BUT WHEN I WAS A KID, I DIDN'T--
LT. BLISS!

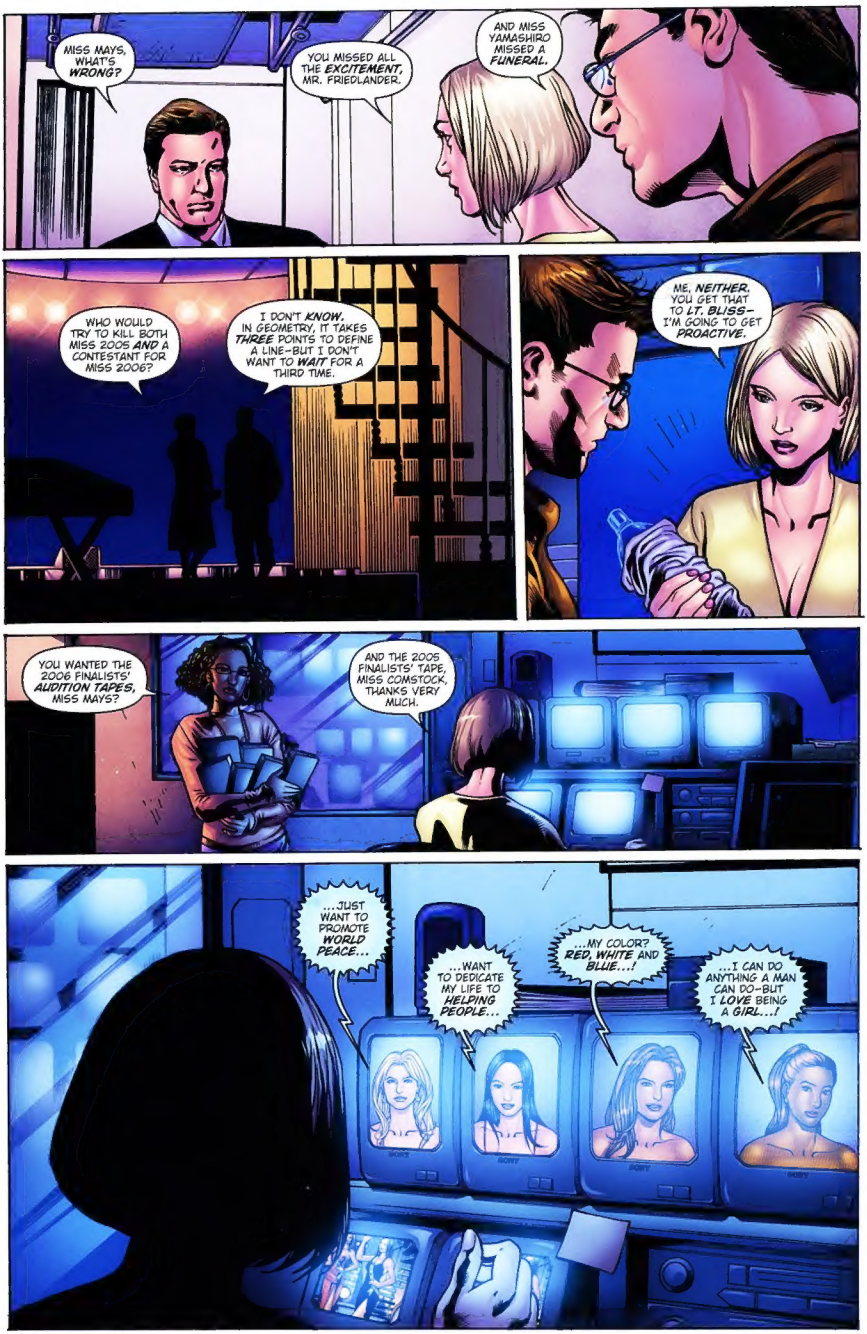

WE'VE GOT SOMETHING, LIEUTENANT.
WELL, LET'S HAVE A LOOK, MISS MAYS!
THERE'S AN OLD MAXIM– "WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE."
WHERE I COME FROM, WE CALL IT AN OLD SAW...
"...LITERALLY."
NY
WELL, MISS DOMINGUEZ?
"WELL," WHAT, LIEUTENANT?
THE LAB SAYS THIS IS THE SAW USED TO WEAKEN THE STEPS OF THE STAIRWAY– AND IT WAS FOUND IN YOUR DRESSING ROOM!
ANYONE COULD HAVE PUT IT THERE! WOULD I HAVE HIDDEN IT THERE IF I WAS GUILTY?
GIVE IT A REST, ACE! YOU'LL HURT YOURSELF!
THAT MAKES SENSE. OR MAYBE SHE WOULD HAVE, TO THROW US OFF THE TRAIL. OR MAYBE SHE HID IT SOMEPLACE ELSE, AND SHE WAS SEEN, AND THEY PUT IT BACK IN–


IT'S TRUE, THERE ARE NO PRINTS ON THE SAW! YOU CAN GO, BUT DON'T LEAVE TOWN!
WITH THE PUBLICITY THIS PAGEANT'S GOT BEHIND IT? LIKE YOU COULD DRAG ME OUT OF MANHATTAN!

THE SHOW MUST GO ON, LADIES–AND AFTER LAST NIGHT'S FIASCO, WE'RE LUCKY TO GET A SECOND CHANCE...
MISS EMPIRE CITY PAGEANT
es Miserables

...SO LET'S GIVE IT ALL WE'VE GOT. WE GO ON TOMORROW NIGHT. MISS YAMASHIRO?
RIGHT HERE, MR. EGAN!
OKAY, I'LL NEED A SPOT ON ME TO OPEN, AND–
–A-AND...
LET'S GO, MISS YAMASHIRO...

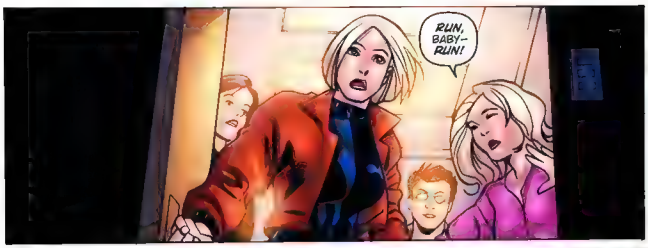
AGGGGH
UNHHHH...
JUST REMAIN STILL... YOU'LL BE FINE. THE DOSE YOU GOT WASN'T TOO STRONG...
ANYTHING, GABE?
THE POLICE LAB WILL HAVE TO TELL US WHAT THE POISON WAS, JEN...
evian
...BUT I KNOW HOW THE POISON GOT INTO AN UNOPENED BOTTLE--IT WAS INJECTED AT THE BASE OF THE NECK.
SHE WAS LUCKY... SHE'LL BE FINE, AFTER SOME REST.
THANK YOU, DOCTOR POST.
WILL THEY CANCEL THE CONTEST, MISS MAYS?
WILL SHE BE ALL RIGHT?
LET'S JUST SAY SOMEONE'S OUT OF THE RUNNING FOR "MISS CONGENIALITY."

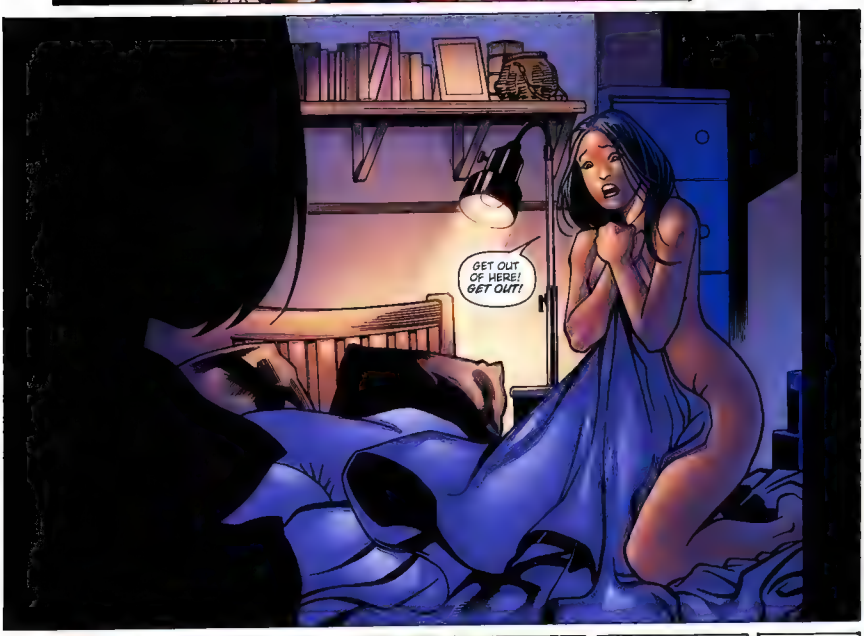

MISS MAYS, WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU MISSED ALL THE EXCITEMENT, MR. FRIEDLANDER.
AND MISS YAMASHIRO MISSED A FUNERAL.
WHO WOULD TRY TO KILL BOTH MISS 2005 AND A CONTESTANT FOR MISS 2006?
I DON'T KNOW. IN GEOMETRY, IT TAKES THREE POINTS TO DEFINE A LINE–BUT I DON'T WANT TO WAIT FOR A THIRD TIME.
ME, NEITHER. YOU GET THAT TO LT. BLISS– I'M GOING TO GET PROACTIVE.
YOU WANTED THE 2006 FINALISTS' AUDITION TAPES, MISS MAYS?
AND THE 2005 FINALISTS' TAPE, MISS COMSTOCK. THANKS VERY MUCH.
...JUST WANT TO PROMOTE WORLD PEACE...
...WANT TO DEDICATE MY LIFE TO HELPING PEOPLE...
...MY COLOR? RED, WHITE AND BLUE...!
...I CAN DO ANYTHING A MAN CAN DO–BUT I LOVE BEING A GIRL...!

2005 FINALISTS
HEY, JANICE, WHAT'S UP?
HERE'S TROUBLE! MY FELLOW CONTESTANT TRILA RAMANSHOOR...!
HEY, BABE, YOU LEARN ANYTHING?
I'M NOT SURE. DID YOU KNOW THAT FOR THE RAMANSHOORS, RUNNING FOR MISS EMPIRE CITY SEEMS TO BE A FAMILY AFFAIR?
I DON'T THINK I WANT YOU LOOKING AT VIDEOS OF OTHER WOMEN, MISTER..
NO, BUT IF YOU LIKE, I CAN GIVE 'EM A LOOK-
...HOW ABOUT I GIVE YOU SOMETHING THAT'S ON EVERY MAN'S MIND?
YOU MEAN...?
LUNCH.

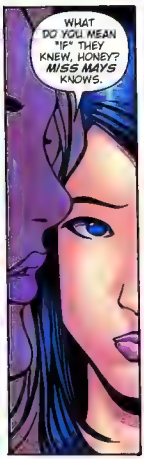
...AND NOW STAY TUNED FOR YOUR LOCAL NEWS...
BRRNNNG
HUH-?
HELLO? YES, MAX! ALL RIGHT, THANKS...
LET'S GO, ACE! ONE OF MY HUNCHES HAS PAID OFF!
I'M GLAD SOMEONE'S GETTING LUCKY AROUND HERE TONIGHT!
AMLONGSK!
JASON KILLS
MISS MAYS!
HARVEY'S PIZZERIA
LIEUTENANT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
LOOKS LIKE WE BOTH HAD THE SAME IDEA- TO HAVE THE CONTESTANTS FOLLOWED...

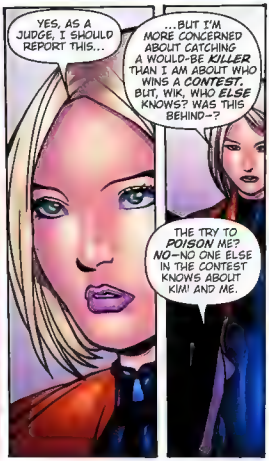
...BUT I THOUGHT WE AGREED TO SHARE INFORMATION ON THIS!
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US IS THAT I ONLY HAD ONE CONTESTANT FOLLOWED--YOU HAD THEM ALL. AND LIEUTENANT, YOU KNOW I ALWAYS COOPERATE WITH THE POLICE.
SURE-- IF YOU DEFINE "ALWAYS" AS "WHEN IT SUITS YOU."
LET'S NOT GET STUCK IN SEMANTICS. ARE WE GOING IN OR NOT?
I'D BETTER HANDLE THIS, LIEUTENANT. I DON'T HAVE TO IDENTIFY MYSELF.
I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU.
KNOCK KNOCK
403
IS THAT THE CHINESE FOOD? JUST A--
MISS MAYS? WHAT ARE YOU--?
MIND IF WE COME IN, MISS SANDERS?
NO! YOU CAN'T! WHERE'S YOUR WARRANT?
PLEASE, KIMBERLY, DON'T--


RUN, BABY-- RUN!


GET OUT OF HERE! GET OUT!

I KNEW IT THE MOMENT I SAW HER--AND SO DID SHE.
BUT THE CONTEST WOULD THROW US OUT IF THEY KNEW...
...HOW DID YOU KNOW, MISS MAYS?
KIM WAS SO SOLICITOUS WHEN SHE ASKED ABOUT YOU AFTER THE POISONING ATTEMPT... IT WAS A HUNCH, THAT'S ALL


WHAT DO YOU MEAN "IF" THEY KNEW, HONEY? MISS MAYS KNOWS.


YES, AS A JUDGE, I SHOULD REPORT THIS...
...BUT I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT CATCHING A WOULD-BE KILLER THAN I AM ABOUT WHO WINS A CONTEST. BUT, WIK, WHO ELSE KNOWS? WAS THIS BEHIND--?
THEY TRY TO POISON ME? NO--NO ONE ELSE IN THE CONTEST KNOWS ABOUT KIM! AND ME.

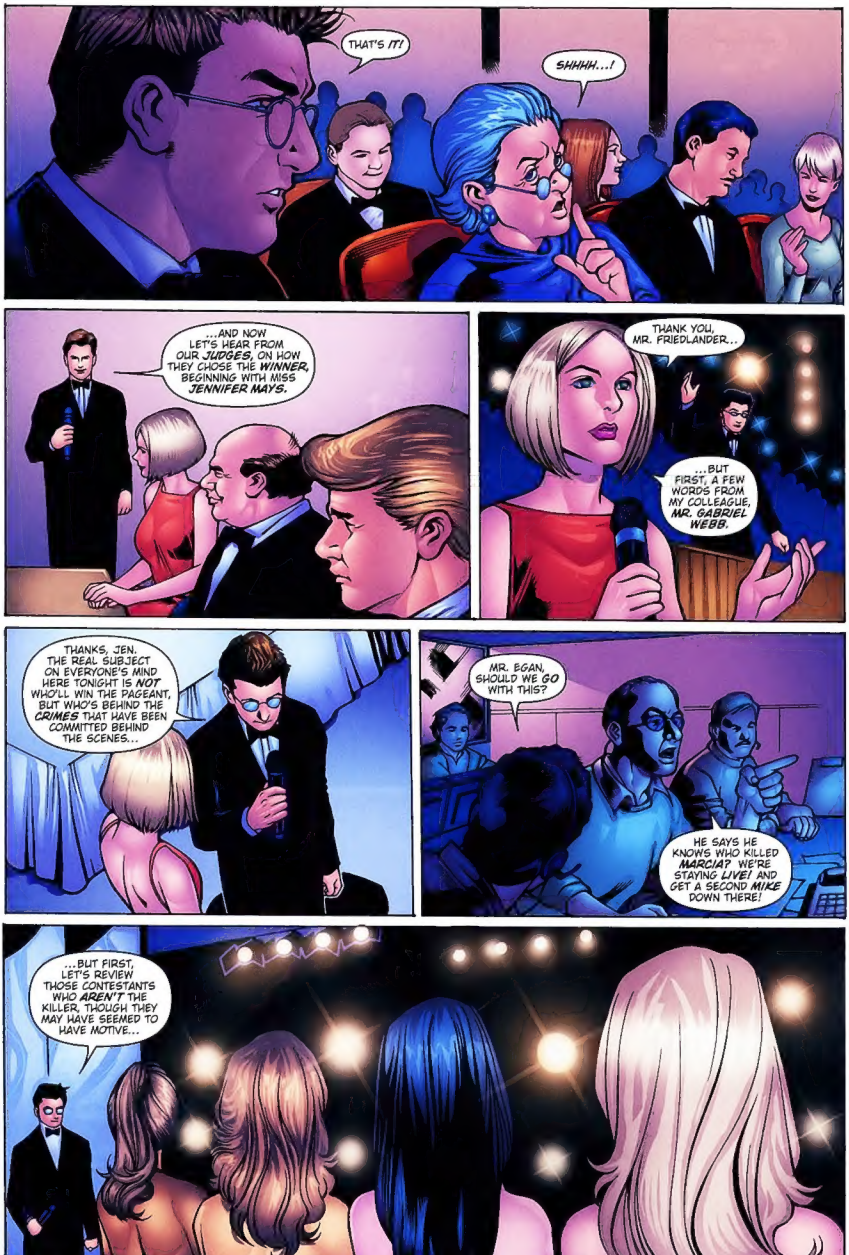
THEN WHY WERE YOU POISONED?
I--I DON'T KNOW.
CALL ME IF YOU WANT TO TALK, MISS YAMASHIRO. UNTIL THEN, THERE'S NOTHING HERE TO CONCERN THE POLICE. JUST BE CAREFUL.
SHE KNOWS, ALL RIGHT. AND UNLESS SHE COMES CLEAN--
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT, HONEY. WHY DON'T WE GO HOME AND PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF?
I DON'T KNOW, BABE. THE MEMORY OF THOSE TWO GIRLS TOGETHER IS GOING TO BE HARD TO BEAT...
JEN, I WAS KIDDING! JEN--!?
MISS EMPIRE CITY PAGEAN

CONTROL ROOM
THUMP
HELLO...?
WHAT ARE YOU--!?
EEEEEK!
NOTHING "WOULD-BE" ABOUT THIS KILLER ANYMORE, MISS MAYS. IT'S MARCIA COMSTOCK.
THE PRODUCTION ASSISTANT? WHAT WAS SHE DOING HERE SO LATE?
PROBABLY WORKING. SHE WAS ALWAYS WORKING. SHE DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS ANY DANGER.
LOOK AT THIS...
HER ASSAILANT MUST HAVE BEEN LOOKING THROUGH THESE WHEN SHE WAS ATTACKED. THEY'RE NUMBERED, AND THEY'RE ALL HERE.

WELL, THE MURDER WEAPON ISN'T. SHE WAS STRANGLED BY SOMETHING LONG AND THIN, PROBABLY CLOTH. I DON'T KNOW WHY HE WOULD'VE TAKEN THE TIME TO REMOVE IT.
OR SHE.
I SEEN SOMEONE RUNNING AWAY, BUT COULDN'T MAKE OUT WHO IT WAS. THE LADY WAS JUST LAYIN' HERE.
MIND IF I GO THROUGH THESE, LIEUTENANT?
YOU CAN BOTH KNOCK YOURSELVES OUT.
MR. WEBB IS QUITE CAPABLE OF DOING THAT— AND EVERYTHING ELSE—ALONE, LIEUTENANT.
TROUBLE IN PARADISE, PROFESSOR?
LATER, LIEUTENANT...
...I'VE GOT SOME READING TO DO

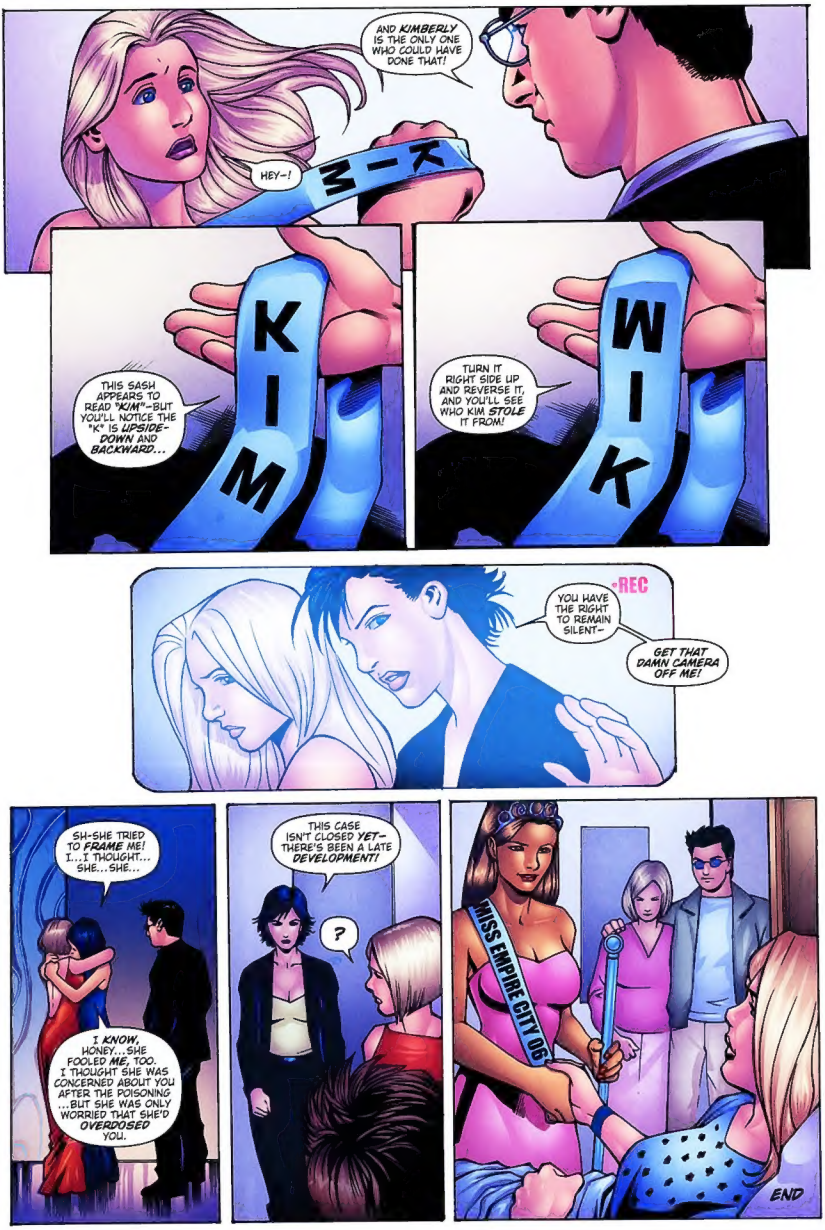
HUH?
JEN! BLISS! ANYBODY!
I'M NOT SURE WHY I'M HERE, LIEUTENANT.
NEITHER AM *I*, EXACTLY, MR. FRIEDLANDER. BUT THERE'S A DISCREPANCY IN THE PAGEANT'S *PRODUCTION LOGS*...
...ACCORDING TO THIS, *YOU* WERE SUPPOSED TO COME DOWN THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SHOW– BUT *JANICE SHERMAN* DID INSTEAD! ANY IDEA *WHY?*
GOD, I'VE BEEN *DREADING* THIS...

...BUT I'VE GOT A THING ABOUT HEIGHTS. BIG JOKE, RIGHT? TV'S MACHO "PROXMIRE." I TALKED THE GIRL INTO SWITCHING ENTRANCES
PERHAPS...
...OR PERHAPS YOU STAGED THAT ATTEMPT-ON YOUR OWN LIFE!
NEVER HAPPEN! I PLAN TO GET OUT OF ACTING AND INTO MANAGEMENT! WHY WOULD I JEOPARDIZE ALL THAT?
HE LIVES IN THE BRONX, DOESN'T HE? I'M GOING TO CALL A COLLEAGUE OF MINE UP THERE...
WHATEVER. IN THE MEANTIME, I'M CANCELING THE PAGEANT TONIGHT!
I WOULDN'T DO THAT, LIEUTENANT. I THINK THIS IS GOING TO COME TO A HEAD TONIGHT... SO THE SHOW MUST GO ON
...AND HERE THEY ARE, OUR FOUR LOVELY FINALISTS...
KIM
MISS


THAT'S IT!
SHHHH...!
...AND NOW LET'S HEAR FROM OUR JUDGES, ON HOW THEY CHOSE THE WINNER, BEGINNING WITH MISS JENNIFER MAYS.
THANK YOU, MR. FRIEDLANDER...
...BUT FIRST, A FEW WORDS FROM MY COLLEAGUE, MR. GABRIEL WEBB.
THANKS, JEN. THE REAL SUBJECT ON EVERYONE'S MIND HERE TONIGHT IS NOT WHO'LL WIN THE PAGEANT, BUT WHO'S BEHIND THE CRIMES THAT HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BEHIND THE SCENES...
MR. BGAN, SHOULD WE GO WITH THIS?
HE SAYS HE KNOWS WHO KILLED MARCIA? WE'RE STAYING LIVE! AND GET A SECOND MIKE DOWN THERE!
...BUT FIRST, LET'S REVIEW THOSE CONTESTANTS WHO AREN'T THE KILLER, THOUGH THEY MAY HAVE SEEMED TO HAVE MOTIVE...

FOR INSTANCE, MISS RAMANSHOOR, I'M AFRAID YOU'RE INELIGIBLE.
WHY? HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?
BECAUSE I REALIZED–WHEN I SAW TAPES OF YOU AND YOUR "OLDER SISTER"–THAT YOU HAVE THE SAME NERVOUS HABIT OF TWIRLING YOUR HAIR...
...MINUS THE FACIAL APPLIANCES AND A DIFFERENT HAIR COLOR, YOU'RE THE SAME PERSON, AREN'T YOU?
VERY WELL, I AM! I DESERVED TO WIN, SO I ENTERED AGAIN–BUT I HURT NO ONE!
WHO DID KILL MARCIA COMSTOCK? SHE WAS MURDERED TO CONCEAL THE INFORMATION IN HER PRODUCTION LOGS– AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT THE KILLER WANTED US TO THINK.
THE LOGS TOLD US THAT MR. FRIEDLANDER WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE FALLEN, POSSIBLY TO HIS DEATH. WHO WANTED YOU DEAD?
I DON'T KNOW, OKAY?
NOW LONG AFTER, MISS YAMASHIRO WAS POISONED–BUT NOT FATALLY. I DID SOME RESEARCH...
...AND FOUND THAT JAMES FRIEDLANDER AND WIK YAMASHIRO ARE SECRETLY MARRIED!

NO SENSE DENYING IT... I'D SEEN HER IN LOCAL THEATER, KNEW SHE WAS A BRILLIANT PERFORMER. I WANTED A PIECE OF HER WHILE I COULD GET IT.
BUT THE HONEYMOON DIDN'T LAST LONG--AND WHEN I WOULDN'T QUIETLY DIVORCE HER, SHE TRIED TO KILL ME ON THOSE STAIRS!
LIKE YOU TRIED TO POISON ME!
WRONG--
--THAT'S WHAT THE KILLER WANTED US TO THINK! SHE KNEW MISS MAYS WOULD LOOK INTO THEIR PAST! SHE DIDN'T TAKE THE PRODUCTION LOG BECAUSE SHE WANTED US TO FIND IT!
THAT WASN'T HER ORIGINAL PLAN...
...THAT WAS TO STEAL THE PRODUCTION LOG AND PLANT IT FOR US TO FIND! BUT WHEN MARCIA CAUGHT HER SHE LEFT IT FOR US TO FIND, STRANGLING HER WITH SOMETHING LONG AND THIN. BUT WHAT?
PROBABLY HER SASH! THAT'S WHY SHE TOOK THE TIME TO TAKE IT WITH HER--IT HAD HER NAME ON IT! BUT IT WAS RUINED, AND COULDN'T BE USED AGAIN...
...AND WIK ISN'T WEARING HER SASH!
NO--!
MY SASH WAS STOLEN--!
I BELIEVE YOU, WIK--AND I CAN PROVE IT! THE REAL KILLER STOLE YOUR SASH TO FRAME YOU AND COVER HERSELF...


AND KIMBERLY IS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HAVE DONE THAT!
HEY--!
KIM
THIS SASH APPEARS TO READ "KIM"--BUT YOU'LL NOTICE THE "K" IS UPSIDE-DOWN AND BACKWARD...
WIK
TURN IT RIGHT SIDE UP AND REVERSE IT, AND YOU'LL SEE WHO KIM STOLE IT FROM!
•REC
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT--
GET THAT DAMN CAMERA OFF ME!
SH-SHE TRIED TO FRAME ME! I...I THOUGHT... SHE...SHE...
I KNOW, HONEY...SHE FOOLED ME, TOO. I THOUGHT SHE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT YOU AFTER THE POISONING ...BUT SHE WAS ONLY WORRIED THAT SHE'D OVERDOSED YOU.
THIS CASE ISN'T CLOSED YET-- THERE'S BEEN A LATE DEVELOPMENT!
?
MISS EMPIRE CITY 06
END